

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1146
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 5800

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PDIP, PINS, RO, KN

SUBJECT: NEW ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR TO NORTH KOREA: GENERAL

MAIOR PAUL MARINESCU

REFS: (A) BUCHAREST 5461 (NOTAL, (B) BUCHAREST 5618 (NOTEAL),
(C) BUCHAREST 1481 (NOTAL)

1. RCP DAILY SCINTEIA ON AUGUST 4 ANNOUNCED APPOINTMENT OF CAREER SECURITY APARATCHIK GENERAL MAIOR (ONE STAR) PAUL MARINESCU AS AMBASSADOR TO NORTH KOREA.

2. OUR INFORMATION ON MARINESCU IS FRAGMENTARY AND DOES NOT PREDATE 1971, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS IDENTIFIED AS A DEPUTY CHIEF OF SECTION IN CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT. COINCIDENTALLY, HE WAS ALSO APPARENTLY COMMANDER OF SECURITY FORCES IN BUCHAREST. AT SOME POINT HE BECAME CHIEF OF STAFF OF PATRIOTIC GUARDS, AND LEAD A DELEGATION OF THAT ORGANIZATION TO CHINA IN APRIL 1972. HIS NAME ALSO APPEARED AS AUTHOR OF A BOOK ENTITLED "FIGHTING ACTIONS OF THE PATRIOTIC GUARDS". IT IS NOT CLEAR WHEN HE WAS RELIEVED OF HIS DUTIES WITH THE GUARD, BUT BY SEPTEMBER 1973 HE WAS AN ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL AND ACCOMPANIED PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU ON HIS TOUR OF LATIN

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AMERICA. FROM 1976 UNTIL THIS YEAR HE HEADED MINISTRY OF INTERIOR'S DIRECTORATE OF ORGANIZATION AND MOBILIZATION.

3. MARINESCU'S AMBASSADORIAL NOMINATION WAS PRESUMABLY OUTGROWTH OF MARCH SHAKE-UP IN STATE SECURITY HEIRARCHY (REF C). WHETHER OR NOT -- GIVEN NEED FOR AGREEMENT -- NOMINATION PRECEDED OR WAS ASSOCIATED WITH ADDITIONAL CHANGES

(REFS A & B) RUMORED FOR EARLY AUGUST BUT AT LAST REPORT
IN ABEYANCE SUBSEQUENT TO PACEPA DEFECTON, WE HAVE NO IDEA.
GIVEN DATE OF SCINTEIA ANNOUNCEMENT, HOWEVER, WE ASSUME
MARINESCU'S APPOINTMENT STANDS.

4. DEPARTMENT MUST HAVE CONSIDERABLY MORE INFORMATION
ON THIS CAREER SECURITY MAN THAN DO WE, BUT PERHAPS OUR
OBSERVATIONS WILL FIT SOMEWHERE IN JIGSAW-PUZZLING OVER
CURRENT TURMOIL IN ROMANIAN SECURITY APPARATUS.

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